Charts

Crazy Cars II

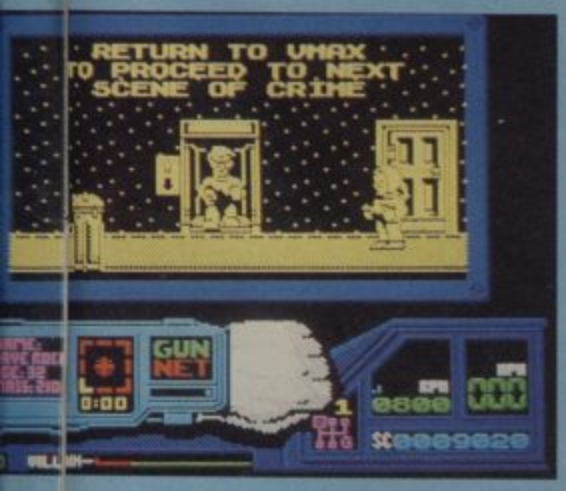
Global Strategy

Expect to see from Rainbow Arts through US Gold is **Spherical**, a Gauntlet clone. As player you look down on over 100 levels as you guide your wizard character through hordes of nasties. You guide a sphere home safely through all dangers picking up extra magical abilities and powers along the way. Like Gauntlet there is a two player option that should make things considerably more fun, though sadly not the four player device that lost us so many man-hours here at C+VG playing Gauntlet 2 a few months back.

Ultimate evil here takes the form of a dragon to be whipped – we are promised it will be huge! – though that doesn't answer the important question: just what is a "sphere" meant to be, anyhow? Like most German products, it will be for C64, ST, Amiga and IBM compats, alongside sister product **The Game**, a space battle spectacular.

Eliminator

Newest 16 bit release from games author John Phillips – who you may remember from Nebulus – is **The Eliminator**, a Hewson release. A space racing game for ST and Amiga, it features 3D graphics and great dollops of action.



Cop This

Technocope from Gremlin is a combination car race/shoot 'em up scheduled for the very tail end of '88. These Spectrum screen shots show both the high tech sports car driving sequences, and the foot-bound sequences where you must try and stalk and capture your felon. The game will be available in Spectrum, C64, Amstrad, Amiga, ST and Amstrad PC versions, released in the post Christmas blockbuster dead zone.

ATARI ST TOP TEN

1	Infogrames
2	Elite – Firebird
3	Menace – Psyclapse
4	STOS Game Creator – mandarin
5	1943 – US Gold
6	Star Glider 2 – Rainbird
7	Triad – Triad
8	Night Raider – Gremlin Graphics
9	Eliminator – Hewson
10	Daley Thompson's Olymp. Chall.

Hostages goes straight in at number one, with Menace, 1943, Triad and Eliminator all new entries. The combined 16 bit market share now stands at 10%.

ALL FORMATS COMBINED TOP TEN

1	Last Ninja 2 – System 3
2	Joe Blade 2 – players
3	Bomb Jack – Encore
4	Footballer of the year – Kixx
5	Commando – Encore
6	Football Manager 2 – Addictive
7	Int. Rugby sim – Code Masters
8	D. T'son's Olymp. Chall. – Ocean
9	Gauntlet – Kixx
10	Air Wolf – Encore

Last Ninja 2 retains the top spot, though not for much longer it would seem. The Amstrad version certainly lost ground this month. Armalyte is looking good as a future tip for the top in 64 terms at least.

AMIGA TOP FIVE

1	Rocket Ranger – Mirrorsoft
2	Battle Chess – Electronic Arts
3	Interceptor – Electronic Arts
4	Menace – Psyclapse
5	Star Glider 2 – Rainbird

The thirty quid Rocket Ranger steps up one place to number one, while E.A. do well and Menace enters at number 4.

Fax

Continental Cock-Up

Ace 3D arcade game Continental Circus was originally called the much more obvious "Continental Circuit" by originators Taito. However, Fax (the magazine section) can now reveal that Fax (the telephone message machine) was responsible for the blunder. Taito's European people received a garbled message about the new arcade product from Japan, and immediately had the machine cabinets and promotional material run up featuring the new, wrong name they had received: a name that seemingly has no possible association with motor racing!

Chrysalis Cracks

Prison, shown here, is a 16-bit adventure very much along the lines of Obliterator – the story of a convict on a penal planet trying to put together an escape ship. It is the first product from a new outfit called Chrysalis, formed by two guys ex of Teque, developers of such titles as Terrormex and Pac-Mania. The player must search for clues to the missing parts of the ship, while fighting off hostile mutant lifeforms. Prison doesn't sound immensely original, but it could well be a good start: ST and Amiga owners must wait for the New Year to see.

Dino Riders Compo

About a trillion, billion years ago, a handful of aliens fled to this planet, chased there by another lot intent on doing nasty things to them. Quickly, and for reasons best known to themselves, they equipped the native lifeforms they found there – dinosaurs to you and me – with guns and armour and stuff and went beating the stuffing out of each other. Yep, convoluted scenarios are no longer the exclusive preserve of computer games! Dino Riders are apparently the latest craze in the Transformers/Zoids/Go Bots ballpark: a collection of fully articulated plastic reptiles in full battle dress. Coming in at between £3.99 and £59.99 there's one to empty the most bulging wallet – even that belonging to one Mr Garry Williams, C+VG's capacious ad manager. It's a good job then that we have a nice assortment of the things to give away as late Christmas pressies, isn't it? And not only that, but we've twenty (TWENTY!) videos featuring the toys to offload too: twenty-five minute cartoon adventures yet to be seen on British TV. Lots of good booty to be won, therefore, and we'll keep picking winners 'till we've got rid of it all. There should be about thirty of you. All we need to know is:

DINO RIDERS ENTRY FORM

1) The Loch Ness Monster is claimed to be a dinosaur, but which sort?

Iguanandon Plesiosaur Wodgosaur

2) The Flintstones pet is called . . .

Dino Rex Toby

3) Who starred in the prehistoric epic "One million years B.C." Was it . . .

Maria Whittaker Lora Clark Raquel Welch

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Charts

SPECTRUM TOP TEN

1	Last Ninja 2 – System 3
2	Bomb Jack – Encore
3	Joe Blade 2 – Players
4	Ad. Pinball Sim – Code Masters
5	I'tional Rugby Sim – Code M'sters
6	Footballer of the Year – Kixx
7	Football Manager 2 – Addictive
8	Pro S'board Sim – Code Masters
9	Commando – Encore
10	Supreme Chall. – Beau Jolly

Last Ninja, the only full-pricer, stays at the top, while Rugby is a new entry and Skateboard a re-entry.

COMMODORE 64 TOP TEN

1	Last Ninja 2 – System 3
2	Armalyte – Thalamus
3	Joe Blade 2 – Players
4	Bomb Jack – Encore
5	Barbarian 2 – Palace
6	Inter. Rugby Sim. – Code Masters
7	Taito Coin-Ops – Ocean
8	Commando – Encore
9	Ace of Aces – Kixx
10	Pro S'board Sim. – Code M'sters

Many positions stay the same, Armalyte enters at number two and looks set to knock System 3 of their perch. A healthy mix of full price and budget stuff as we near Christmas.

AMSTRAD TOP TEN

1	Joe Blade 2 – Players
2	Last Ninja 2 – System 3
3	Kik Start 2 – Mastertronic
4	Bomb Jack – Encore
5	Supreme Chall. – Beau Jolly
6	Air Wolf – Encore
7	BMX Ninja – Alternative
8	Battleships – Encore
9	Super Stuntman – Code Masters
10	Gauntlet – Kixx

Only one full price non-compilation around, Last Ninja 2 in a chart stacked full of re-releases, re-entries and re-entering re-releases. It's all a bit sad.